



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

María del Mar López or Maria.Lopez@noaa.gov
727-824-5305, FAX 727-824-5308

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Seasonal Prohibition on Fishing for and Possession of Blackfin, Vermilion, Black, and Silk Snapper in U.S. Caribbean Federal Waters Begins October 1, 2015, at 12:01 a.m., Local Time

NOAA Fisheries reminds fishers and the general public of the annually recurring seasonal prohibition on fishing for or possession of blackfin, vermilion, black, or silk snapper from 12:01 a.m., local time, on October 1 through December 31, 2015, in U.S. Caribbean federal waters. The U.S. Caribbean federal waters extend from the nine nautical mile seaward boundary of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the three nautical mile seaward boundary of the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands out to 200 nautical miles offshore.

This action complies with regulations implemented under Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to address required provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and is necessary to protect these resources. The Caribbean

Fishery Management Council, in cooperation with NOAA Fisheries, developed the amendment to reduce fishing mortality.

This bulletin provides only a summary of the information regarding the existing regulations. Any discrepancies between this bulletin and the regulations as published in the *Federal Register* will be resolved in favor of the *Federal Register*.

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